



NSW and ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc. Newsletter

Newsletter for November 2024

Message from the President

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Welcome to this edition of our Newsletter.

The Australian Tax Office has changed rules for not-for-profit organisations, which will affect many of our societies. Many groups have contacted the committee for more information. So, as a result, a special Zoom

meeting for secretaries and treasurers and anyone else interested was held. Now is the time for all societies to do their self-assessments for the past tax year.

Museums of History NSW, previously known as NSW State Archives, put a call out for assistance from Societies to assist with scanning and transcribing the records of the Small Debt Books. There are over 300 books for the state, discussions were held with Martyn Killion via Zoom before several societies put

our hands up to assist with this, covering about half the collection, but it is hoped that societies might do other books so that the collection can be completed. My Society has completed the Picton Books. I found several of my own ancestors while transcribing the books, who knew that my great uncle leased land for his animals beside what he owned.

Sadly, my mother, Helen, died in October 2023 just 4 short months after my father, which was a shock to all. After cleaning out their house of 55 years, much of their belongings ended up at my place to decide what was needed and what was not. I am amazed as to my findings, she wrote her story, her first day at boarding school where she ended up being a godmother to a baby baptised that day, followed by the reasons her family moved to this area, another story, why her grandmother moved from Victoria to New South Wales, where she met her husband to be. This is just my family, the work she did for our local society was amazing and Kate, our librarian, is starting to dread me going into the rooms as I bring more information to be filed. Not to forget her book collection, many I already have, she loved a good bargain and came home from many conferences with new or old books.

The Association sits on the AFFHO Committee. Their tri-annual conference will be held in Brisbane in March 2025. Called Australasian Conference Connections 2025 – PAST – PRESENT – FUTURE. More information is available on their website and below in this newsletter.

I would like to congratulate Heather Garnsey, who received The Medal of the Order of Australia in this year's King's Birthday Honours. The work she has done in the field of genealogy and family history is amazing. The honour is well deserved.

I would like to thank all the members of the committee for their assistance and support in the past year, our meetings are always informative. Our members serve the Association very well with our individual expertise. I would particularly like to thank Richard Goss, our representative from Richmond Tweed, as he retires from the committee, and also Nick Reddan who has been a committee member for many years. Nick has kindly agreed to continue as our Webmaster.

Best Wishes to all our members,

Gail.

November Management Committee Meeting

This was held on Sunday 10th November 2024 via Zoom. Seven committee members were present. Some important points from that meeting were:

7. Conference Reports

7.1 - The State Conference was held as a virtual, mini conference on Saturday 14th September 2024.

We received some very positive feedback regarding the day. 192 individuals registered as well as 8 societies. The sessions were recorded and are still available to those who registered through the dedicated link which was sent out to everyone. For those who attended the day as a society group your organiser has the link.

Recipients of the Cynthia Foley Encouragement Award and the Dorothy Fellowes Website Awards are as follows:



2024 Conference – Dig deeper in 24

39th Annual Conference of the NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc

Cynthia Foley Encouragement
Award for 2024
goes to

Coalfields Local History Association Inc



2024 Conference – Dig deeper in 24

39th Annual Conference of the NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc

The Annual Dorothy Fellowes
Website Awards for 2024

Category A: Society of Australian Genealogists Inc.
Subsite Ironclad Sisterhood

Category B: Bega Valley Genealogy Society Inc.



7.2 - 2025 Conference Update by Judy Bull

The Illawarra FHG Conference Committee has already made considerable progress in their organisation for next year's conference. A 2025 Conference Website and Facebook Page will be available shortly.

8. Other Reports:

8. 1 - Australian Federation of Family History Organisations (AFFHO)

The next Congress will be held on 21st – 23rd March 2025 in Brisbane, Queensland. See further details below.

8.3 - Website Report – Please encourage your society to add their events, book launches or presentations as this is a free service and has a wide reach.

9. General Business

9.1 – Grant Applications

Four grant applications were approved at our November Management Committee Meeting. A letter notifying these societies of their success will be sent out shortly and funds will be deposited into the respective society banks accounts via direct debit.

Upcoming Family History Events in 2025 and Other Information

Conferences:



Conference Organisers: Genealogical Society of Queensland Inc.

Date : 21 – 23 March 2025 (Conference); Tours 24th March 2025

Venue: Brisbane Technology Park, 1 Clunies Ross Court, Eight Mile Plains, Qld

Details: <https://www.connections2025.org.au/>

Registration : Early Bird \$395 – 3 days - Available until 30 Nov 2024. After this date: Three Day Conference \$515; One Day Conference \$260.



Illawarra Family History Group

Advance Notice:

**NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc.
40th Annual Conference**

Host: Illawarra Family History Group Inc.

Date: 12, 13 & 14 September 2025

Venue: Fraternity Club, 11 Bourke St., Fairy Meadow, (Wollongong), 2519

Theme: They Came From Where?

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- ❖ **Tech Support Group Meetings:** held on the **second Wednesday of the month at 7.30 pm – 9 pm on Zoom**. Future Topics will be advertised on our private FB Page. Sessions are recorded.
13th November 2024 – Last meeting of 2024. Topic: Using Canva
12th February 2025 - First meeting of 2025. Topic: TBA



- ❖ **Office Bearers Networking Group:** held on the **fourth Wednesday of every second month 7.30pm – 9pm on Zoom**. This group is aimed at members with specific positions within FHSs. Group selected will be advertised on our private FB Page and email sent to the Secretary of your Society/Group. Sessions are recorded.
Next meeting - **26th February 2025** – Journal Editors.



- ❖ **Social Group** – held on the **fourth Wednesday of every second month 7.30pm – 9 pm on Zoom**, alternating months with the Officer Bearers Networking Group. After an introductory social chat, participants will be requested to share some information for a few minutes on the specific topic. Future Topics will be advertised on our private FB Page.

Next meeting – **26th March 2025**. Topic: TBA



To have your family history event advertised in this newsletter, please forward details to our secretary at secretary@nswactfhs.org Please request that it is added to our next Newsletter.



**The NSW & ACT Association
Management Team would like to wish
all Association Member Groups a safe
& enjoyable Festive Season.**